

PACOM Offers Students an Opportunity to Intern

By Staff Sgt. Jaquetta Mallory

Honolulu- U.S. Pacific Command (PACOM) recently started a volunteer student internship program that offers college applicants the chance to receive real-world experience in multiple PACOM mission areas.

Run by PACOM's Pacific Outreach Directorate (J92), the purpose of the internship is to offer graduate and undergraduate level students exposure to civil careers within the military in a combatant command environment.

Although the career areas will vary, past students have interned in fields relating to civil-military relations, human rights, intelligence, public affairs and human resources.

Not only does the program benefit students by exposing them to opportunities afforded in government service, it provides a pool of candidates who may consider a future working with the Department of Defense. Many students actively pursue careers in related fields as a result of their time spent at PACOM.

While working at PACOM headquarters at Camp Smith, students receive a chance to conduct research on issues facing the region and participate in international conferences and seminars. Students also learn about PACOM's strategic objectives and many students gain a detailed understanding on how the military executes public policy.

Past students had a lot of positive things to say about the internship experience.

When asked if she would recommend this internship to future students, Angela Lee, an intern in the office of our Foreign Policy Advisor replied, "Yes, definitely! I had a great time and learned a tremendous amount. I also made a lot of contacts as well."

Dustin Clinton, who worked for eight weeks as a Joint Interagency Coordination Group Intern, also expressed his appreciation for the opportunity.

"Because of this internship, I gained more of an interest in the intelligence field and international security work. I enjoyed the interaction with the wide variety of co-workers," said Clinton.

To qualify, students must hold a U.S. citizenship, have a minimum grade point average of 3.0, be committed to a minimum of 20 hours a week for eight weeks and be enrolled as an undergraduate, graduate or a certificate student scheduled to return to school upon internship completion.

For more information please contact Ramona Ferreyra, program manager via email at ramona.ferreyra.ctr@pacom.mil or pacom.j92@pacom.mil.

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